

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

Public comments as of March 27, 2013, 11:28 AM

All Participants around Washoe County

Comments sorted by support



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Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

Introduction

On April 9, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will consider a request by SK Baseball (SKB) that Washoe County help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community by providing assistance in restructuring the long-term debt for the construction of the Reno Aces' baseball stadium.

In January, the City of Reno approved a new agreement that would provide \$30 million over 30 years to replace an original commitment based on property tax revenues that did not meet expectations due to the economic downturn. SKB's request is that Washoe County assist in completing the restructuring of the debt by providing up to \$500,000 for 30 years, subject to annual appropriation.

Aces baseball provides a family entertainment venue that creates an annual economic impact of \$21 million. While the County has no legal obligation to participate, SKB is asking for the County's support which would be combined with the City of Reno's funding and additional funding from SKB.

Question:

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

Baseball

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As of March 27, 2013, 11:28 AM, this forum had:

Attendees:	392
Participants around Washoe County:	105
Hours of Public Comment:	5.3

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

Name not shown in District 3

March 25, 2013, 3:49 PM

I would strongly agree

It's important to note that the new agreement replaces an existing agreement, in short the commitment was made by the City and we need to meet those commitments. The last thing we want to see is yet another empty, useless structure in downtown Reno. As for attracting tourists, the park does that. And it provides affordable, family friendly entertainment as well as valuable employment. Without this measure we have an empty stadium doing nothing for the community.

4 Supporters

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 3:14 PM

I would strongly agree

We need to maintain a vibrant part of the community. Family-friendly, affordable, tourist friendly entertainment--all good.

We cannot afford NOT to support this.

3 Supporters

Lance Peterson in District 2

March 25, 2013, 2:05 PM

I would strongly agree

The entire Aces complex, including restaurants, is the only family friendly thing to do in Downtown. It is also the only thing (visually) worth looking at. The casinos and other outdated buildings are quickly becoming eyesores because the casino owners are pocketing the profits, rather than make building improvements.

The cost of losing the Aces is inconceivable, due to many reasons; The most significant being the loss of jobs, followed by the loss of a community event that is healthy and rewards nearly a million fans each year.

By losing the Aces, that area becomes an entirely vacant neighborhood, which will turn into a haven for graffiti, drifters, drug activity and abandoned buildings.

All of this and I didn't even bring up the benefits of the positive exposure of a winning team.

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 4

March 22, 2013, 3:37 PM

I would strongly agree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

Baseball in general and Reno Aces specifically is a wonderful asset to Reno, Sparks and Washoe county. It is wholesome and appropriate for all age groups. It also brings in visitors that are here to support the opposing teams. Not everything has to be about gambling.

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 2:41 PM

I would strongly agree

The ACEs Baseball is the best event that Reno and Northern Nevada has ever had. It is an event that a young child to an elderly person can enjoy together. My family loves to go to the games. It a very well run organization. I would be very disappointed to see ACEs leave Reno.

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 3

March 26, 2013, 9:40 AM

I would strongly agree

This is one of the few family friendly venues in the area, we have enough casinos, etc.

2 Supporters

Jeff Wood outside Washoe County

March 25, 2013, 3:51 PM

I would strongly agree

We live 80 miles north of Reno and give our support to many City and County business's and services when we come to the area to attend Aces games. Last year we attended 20 games, and this year we purchased season tickets and have just booked our first round of reservations for 40 nights at a hotel in downtown Reno to stay at while we come down to attend the Aces games. When we come to games, we also do all of our shopping in the Reno area, we go out to dinners around the city and county and for all our meals while we are there. In fact, we are retired and have recently been looking around the valley to purchase a home and relocate to the area, and one of the main reasons of wanting to move to Reno is our enjoyment both for the area and primarily in attending Aces baseball games. Having the Aces provides a safe, family friendly, enjoyable event that greatly increases the quality of life for people. Even people who do not attend baseball or care about baseball benefit from having the Aces in town. This also increases the city and county economy by people such as us in giving our support to the area. There are a lot of people and business's who benefit by having the Aces, I sure hope both the city and the county continue to see the benefits that they receive with giving their support for the Aces.

2 Supporters

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

I would strongly agree

To me, this is a no-brainer decision -- economically and for the well-being and sustainable promotion of a positive community spirit.

2 Supporters

Thomas/Debra Paxson outside Washoe County

March 22, 2013, 4:20 PM

I would strongly agree

This should be viewed as a long-term proposition. Significant infrastructure was put in place so that everyone...not only Reno but surrounding communities as well as outside the area could come & enjoy first-rate, AAA baseball. The Reno Aces are a great example of a local, "in your community" American tradition...last year they took us all the way to the top!

Although we live in Gardnerville, NV, we have enjoyed checking the schedule every season & attending as often as we can. We have been to games from the beginning & taken our grandsons who live in California; it's a great venue providing wholesome entertainment for the entire family. The venue is first-class, the food is great & we have always had a good time.

If the City of Reno decides it's not a worthwhile project...what gets done with the field? What about all the vendors & the jobs that are created each season? This is too important to just let go by the wayside...we should be all in!

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 5

March 22, 2013, 2:34 PM

I would strongly agree

I think back to the city before the stadium and can't help but to notice that there was nothing other than touristy conventions that would bring people to downtown Reno. The Reno Aces have given us something to be proud of and they provide a venue where you can bring your family to show support for our local team. Not to mention that east of Lake Street was an area that no one wanted to frequent before the stadium was built. I think that are many positives that the Aces have brought to the county, including job opportunities, support for local businesses, and a community togetherness.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 27, 2013, 8:40 AM

I would strongly agree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

Baseball is bringing more people downtown. Something for FAMILIES to do downtown. The last thing we need is to have the beautiful stadium be closed.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 27, 2013, 8:27 AM

I would strongly agree

A Triple A baseball team is a real coup for any community. Not only does it bring untold economic benefits in terms of hotel occupancy, restaurant reservations, parking revenue, casino revenue, etc., but it also provides badly needed positive publicity to a region that is often looked upon negatively by potential tourists or conventioneers. For those who have never experienced high level minor league baseball, it is inexpensive and thoroughly entertaining family experience, even for those who are not baseball fans. For many tourists, a Triple A baseball team makes them come here to visit over other cities that don't have such an attraction. The ballpark is the beginning of a transition of Reno from an aging and somewhat depressing casino town to a vibrant, modern and exciting urban community. It's continued development should be supported by everyone as it will ultimately benefit all of us.

1 Supporter

CJ Miller in District 4

March 22, 2013, 10:37 PM

I would strongly agree

Having a professional Triple A baseball team that won their World Series is a real feather in the area's cap. The revitalization of the formerly blighted part of town is encouraging. More people need to support the Reno Aces and patronize the little gem of a ballpark. I, for one, am very proud of the Aces and look forward to many more years of great baseball.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 3:28 PM

I would strongly agree

The amount provided by the County is minimal when the total impact of a vibrant downtown is considered. While the ball park will not fix the downtown on its own, it does send a message to developers and investors that the downtown is moving in the right direction. It also sends a message to the owners, who are not making anything from the ballpark, that we as a community support the investment. The flip side is to say no to the ballpark - what if that were enough to discourage the owners enough to move the team to a receptive and welcoming community like Tuscon who has a stadium ready and waiting. That would significantly set the revitalization of our downtown back and could cost the community much more in the long run in delayed or lost investment and development

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All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

as future investors would consider that vote a message - Why should they invest in our community if we are not will to do so. By the way, downtown revitalization has always required public tax payer funding to be successful. It is much more expensive to develop in the core and without public funding assistance of some sort, the developers will go to more affordable areas. It's called a public/private partnership.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 2:24 PM

I would strongly agree

I find it terribly disheartening when citizens of Washoe County have the opinion that they are able to enjoy the many eminencies that make up our immediate area and not want to take the responsibility to help support them. Just because the Ball Park falls within the boundaries of the City of Reno is no excuse to ignore the realization that the economic downturn has hurt all of the citizens and businesses within Washoe County. If the people of Washoe County enjoy and support the Aces then, in my opinion, they have the responsibility to help keep them in the area.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 27, 2013, 9:05 AM

I would strongly agree

Aside from the obvious success of the team/ballpark in general, the area around the ballpark has improved considerably since its introduction and should continue to do so. This is a good thing for Reno downtown. The ballpark/team attracts attendance from the general area, not just downtown Reno - that includes all of Washoe County. It is reasonable that Washoe County should participate in financial support to satisfy restructuring of the original agreement with team ownership.

Name not shown in District 1

March 26, 2013, 7:53 AM

I would strongly agree

Please don't let the Aces stadium go dark. \$500,000 is a drop in the bucket compared to what the economic impacts will be if the stadium closes and the Aces move elsewhere. Even if you're not a baseball fan, keeping the stadium open and the Aces here in Reno is good for everyone by supporting our local economy, keeping people working and providing fun, wholesome entertainment for kids and families (which could hopefully keep kids out of trouble).

Name not shown in District 5

March 25, 2013, 4:05 PM

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

I would strongly agree

I feel that the baseball team is great for the community that doesn't have gaming as every other place does. but. the stadium people need to do two things. lower the prices at the concession stands and get the concession stand wait time cut in half. it is ridiculous on how long it takes to get a dog, pretzel and soda. 20 minutes????? way too long.

Name not shown in District 3

March 24, 2013, 10:26 AM

I would strongly agree

I would much rather see the County fund its existing services. Library, schools, courts and Sheriff. Especially as the library and schools have been very, very badly hit and need help.

Name not shown in District 5

March 23, 2013, 11:14 AM

I would strongly agree

My feeling is that , sometimes the community just has to have something nice for Family entertainment. What price can you put on activities, that keeps kids off the streets, and gives them healthy options, rather than just hanging out, and getting into trouble. For years I have watched as the Casino's got their way with projects that really don't benefit the community. Like the Bowling Stadium, tearing down The Mapes, etc. The biggest stab in the back to the citizens of this town, was when we voted down the new Court House and voted in \$\$\$ for Parks and Rec, including the Tahoe to Pyramid Bike Trail, this was at least 10 years ago and is still not complete. But, the Court House sure got the "fast track"

Give Them the \$\$\$!!!

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 3:47 PM

I would strongly agree

As in industry, we must continually improve. The ball park is part of Reno's continuous improvement. It does bring a boon to the Reno society, so I support keeping the ball park.

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 2:13 PM

I would strongly agree

Reno Nevada

Name not shown in District 5

March 22, 2013, 1:37 PM

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Agree'

I would strongly agree

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 5

March 26, 2013, 1:29 PM

I would strongly agree

Name not shown in District 4

March 26, 2013, 6:54 AM

I would strongly agree

Name not shown in District 5

March 25, 2013, 5:13 PM

I would strongly agree

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 1:27 PM

I would strongly agree

Name not shown in District 1

March 23, 2013, 4:26 PM

I would strongly agree

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 4:54 PM

I would strongly agree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Agree'

Name not shown in District 4

March 26, 2013, 12:38 PM

I would agree

Since we have already spent the money to build the park, plus the money to relocate the fire station, it would be negligent to not help fund the project we have already spent so much on. Plus, the Aces bring a much needed lift to both our downtown and our entertainment options for families. Love having a class team, not to mention a championship team!

1 Supporter

Jack Hayes in District 2

March 26, 2013, 7:15 PM

I would agree

Restructuring debt is fine with me. Assuming more debt is not so fine. I live on a fixed income and don't need any more taxes or fees -- though I know they are coming.

Name not shown in District 3

March 25, 2013, 6:55 PM

I would agree

While I do not support spending city money on such an activity, I also do not want to see another closed business in Reno. So, I'd have to vote , "yes." Spend some money, but only after taxing every ticket! How much extra would a ticket cost if all or a portion of the ticket were taxed to fund the stadium. I'd also spend an extra \$.50 on a beer or soft drink to pay for the stadium. I really don't think many of the politician in Reno have many creative ideas of funding projects.

Name not shown in District 3

March 25, 2013, 3:57 PM

I would agree

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 11:54 AM

I would agree

Name not shown in District 2

March 23, 2013, 9:45 AM

I would agree

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 5:46 PM

I would agree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Agree'

I would agree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Neither Agree Nor Disagree'

(No statements)

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Slightly Disagree'

David Howard in District 5

March 26, 2013, 5:26 AM

I slightly disagree

We moved to Reno in 2009 and was elated to hear about the Aces in Reno. We LOVE baseball and Aces ballpark is absolutely beautiful. It would sadden me greatly for Reno to lose AAA baseball. That being said I do not agree with Government (city, county, state, federal) bailing out failing businesses. I have worked for the Federal Government for over 20 years and very disappointed to see how tax revenue is abused at all levels. I hate to see empty buildings and storefronts but using tax revenue as public aid for failing businesses that probably are mismanaged to begin with is not the answer. There has got to be other ways to help these businesses stay in their communities.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 5

March 24, 2013, 5:02 PM

I slightly disagree

For profit making companies need to anticipate economic downturns and perhaps not make as much profit as they anticipated. Reno and Washoe Co. are in severe economic straits too, and aren't sufficiently funding education and other needs of the citizens, before things such as a AAA baseball stadium.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 23, 2013, 3:09 PM

I slightly disagree

While I believe that the Aces are a terrific asset to Reno and Washoe County, I do not believe that the county has an obligation to provide funding assistance alas long as it is struggling to provide more important services to its citizens.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 2:08 PM

I slightly disagree

Though I appreciate the entertainment and activities provided in Reno I find the continued requests for the county to support them annoying. Living outside the city makes these events hard to attend and I would rather see my taxes go to something that benefits my neighborhood. In the case of the stadium, I don't see how it helps outside of Reno with the economic impact so I can't support the county funding it.

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Slightly Disagree'

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 5

March 27, 2013, 9:29 AM

I slightly disagree

Private businesses such as this should be able to stand on their own without government financial assistance. If there is not enough demand for it to be successful than maybe it was not meant to be.

Name not shown in District 5

March 25, 2013, 10:06 AM

I slightly disagree

While I believe in the idea of family friendly entertainment opportunities and baseball is certainly a part of that, I do not support the use of county taxpayer dollars to support the private owners of a baseball park and franchise. It would seem that the private sector has the greater responsibility to support this endeavor and the posturing by SKB is disingenuous. The city and the county have for too long "bailed" out the business sector to keep businesses here. Albeit there is rationale for that but SKB probably used a faulty reliance on past practices of the City of Reno to bail them out of a hardship that any good business plan would have anticipated. This park was built at a very high price to the community. The relocation of fire stations, no parking facilities and an adverse impact on surrounding neighborhoods as well as the limited use of the park. Why is it that an agreement cannot be made that the ball park could be used for other venues? Concerts, Theater etc. It does not seem like a good business plan to only use the park for 75 home games over 5 months and the park empty all other times.

So let's do the numbers - at the current structure of \$500,000 a year expense to the county that figures to roughly \$6700 per home game and what does the county get in return?

The county has already said that the CAB program is too expensive so isn't this plan too?

Name not shown in District 5

March 26, 2013, 9:15 PM

I slightly disagree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 4:02 PM

I strongly disagree

NO, NO, AND AGAIN NO! I BELIEVE THEY ALREADY GOT ENOUGH MONEY OUT OF THE LOCAL TAX PAYERS OF THE CITY OF RENO. IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT THEY TORE DOWN THE MAIN FIRE STATION AND DISPLACED IT BY ERECTING TWO TEMPORARY STATIONS AND DID NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR A NEW PERMANENT ONE. TAXPAYERS WILL GET THAT BILL DOWN THE ROAD TOO. THEY GOT THE LAND FOR VIRTUALLY NOTHING. THE CITY JUST LET THEM OFF THE HOOK ON THEIR LOAN AND IS GIVING THEM \$30,000,000.00 IN TAX DOLLARS WHEN WE CAN'T ADEQUITLY FUND POLICE DEPT., FIRE DEPT., PARKS&REC.DEPT., BUILDING DEPT., SEWER SYSTEMS, OR EVEN BASIC CITY OF RENO ADMIN.. WHY DO WE NEED TO KEEP BANK ROLLING THIS COMPANY? THE COUNTY SHOULD NOT BE CONTRIBUTING ONE MORE CENT TO THIS DEBACLE. GRANTED, IT IS A NICE BALL STADIUM, BUT THE OWNERS ARE BUSINESSMEN AND RUN LARGE SHOPPING CENTERS IN OTHER CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY AND SHOULD KNOW THE RISKS OF DOING BUSINESS. IT'S THEIR RESONSIBILITY, NOT OURS.

10 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 5:30 PM

I strongly disagree

The owners are billionaires. They should pay for their own stadium and they should pay taxes on the income they make from it.

7 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 23, 2013, 10:56 AM

I strongly disagree

Washoe county has much higher priorities. It has already cut many existing services to the point of inefficiency.

If the ballpark were filled to capacity for every game, it would still only benefit the very small percentage of the population who attend the games and/or some businesses in its immediate neighborhood.

The claimed amount of financial benefit to the community is questionable at best. It should be substantiated by publishing exactly who the specific beneficiaries are.

6 Supporters

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

I strongly disagree

Please do not put the residents of unincorporated Washoe County on the hook for anything in the decaying downtown of Reno.

5 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 8:40 PM

I strongly disagree

Reno has continually abused the citizens due to their lack of being able to budget for this baseball stadium. Several times major investors wanted to build in a more suitable area and they got blocked by Reno. I say they decided to build the stadium let them pay for it.

Washoe County has worked very hard to keep their budget in order and not make bad decisions. Please don't start making them now!

5 Supporters

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 1:38 PM

I strongly disagree

The people of Reno and Sparks have already funded this venue enough. We built them an entire stadium out of our pocket and gave them tax exemptions based on assumption that they would eventually pay us back in property taxes. They failed. They could not sustain a business even with all of the help from the taxpayers. Now they want more help? I believe it would almost be CRIMINAL to give more tax payer money to a private business!

4 Supporters

Name not shown in District 3

March 23, 2013, 1:15 AM

I strongly disagree

It's Reno's project not Washoe County. Sparks already determined it was a bad idea. What a money pit if it was sooo profitable Reno would not need the county to bail it out.

4 Supporters

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 3:11 PM

I strongly disagree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

If a baseball team cannot make it here because they do not get enough revenue then maybe it isn't really needed. Because the City of Reno has made a giant mistake does that mean that the county must follow ? If this were a rich area and times were different I might change my mind, but use your money in more intelligent ways. When there isn't enough money then look at your priorities....baseball should not be one of them.

4 Supporters

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 2:19 PM

I strongly disagree

I don't think taxpayer funds should be used to subsidize athletic teams and facilities. These facilities and teams are wonderful and enrich the community but if they can't survive on their own ... that is the will of the free market. So be it. Frequently, these teams claim they don't make a profit but in fact they pour all of their excess non-allocated funds into management salaries and "expenses." If we taxpayers want to subsidize something important, let it be art, music and sports in our public schools. Let it be public swimming pools for youth in the summer. Let it be our senior centers.

4 Supporters

Name not shown in District 3

March 22, 2013, 3:16 PM

I strongly disagree

reno has shoved a continuous flow of "bad ideas" down the public's throats in the past few years, almost all of them have cost the public dearly, and provided no increase in recreational or entertainment opportunities for the locals or visitors.

with the exception of the river park, and possibly the theater (MAYBE), essentially all the money that has been expropriated has gone wasted, or into some council member (or their family members) pocket.

the trench, the comrow, all the underhanded dealings with cashells sons and partners, the selling off of the fire station, the giving away downtown bus station, the creation of a shooting gallery at the aces stadium, giving away the post office, etc. none any good for the public.

further, reno has squandered every dollar it has ever touched. look at the outrageous union "arrangements", paying our police and fire chiefs more than san francisco's, and even more than the head generals of the military.

if its not worth it for private sector to take a risk, that should be a clue.

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 22, 2013, 1:53 PM

I strongly disagree

I strongly disagree that the taxpayers outside of the City of Reno should be required to support a City facility, especially when the funds will have to come from a cut in County services during these lean times. What about using the stadium for more purposes to make it more self-supporting?

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 4

March 22, 2013, 1:39 PM

I strongly disagree

Washoe County has been making prudent cuts for years while the City of Reno kept dipping into the well, raising staff salaries and unwise purchases. Until the City Manager's salary matches the County Manager's salary, as well as police and fire salaries, ONLY THEN should such a 30-year debt be considered WITH guarantees that the stadium will even be around the next 30 years.

3 Supporters

Name not shown in District 5

March 26, 2013, 9:05 AM

I strongly disagree

I do not work & pay taxes to keep baseball in Reno. Imagine how much \$1 million a year for 30 years would help the schools, police dept, gang units, or county services. Yes, baseball is good family friendly entertainment, I do not feel the taxpayers need to pay to keep it here.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 25, 2013, 11:06 AM

I strongly disagree

To start with I think the stadium is a great venue. However, i have never supported the idea that a city, or a county for that matter, should pay for a sports venue. We should all realize that any local support goes to enrich, or offset the losses of, the private owner(s). If it is such a great idea then it should support itself.

As stated in many of the comments I have read, the City of Reno is nearly broke, or maybe it is already for that matter. They have made a number of poor decisions which i will admit would be looked at as great if they had worked out. However, in this case, this was not a good idea to begin

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

with. I would not suggest that the County even agendize the discussion until they pay their property tax. The City of Reno continually tried to stick it to the County - see the Fire Department debacle, and other schemes. There is too much self dealing and conflicts of interest involved in City of Reno dealings, specifically Bob Cashell. The City of Sparks has sense enough to say no. I certainly hope the County will as well.

I trust that the County which has manged its budget shortfall so well during this difficult time will not join the City of Reno and become irresponsible as the City has been. The City made this deal and they should deal with it not the taxpayers of the unincorporated County. In addition, the County has many reduced services which would be further reduced should this funding be approved.

Please do not approve this.

Thank you.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 1

March 25, 2013, 10:28 AM

I strongly disagree

The County is finally starting a turnaround from the devastating recession. County jobs and services have been gutted. The County should invest in its infra-structure before taking on a risky investment for the next 30 years. Roads, Parks, Libraries, Public Health Services, Salaries and etc. needs to be restored first.

The County's economic recovery is due but not limited to the positive housing and job markets. The Reno Ace's inaugural season was in 2008 when the County was in an economic free fall. The next four years the County was still in a downward spiral. I didn't see the Reno Ace's economic impact helping the County. I did see County employees losing their jobs or take significant cuts in salary. I saw County Parks go without maintenance, Library hours cut significantly and road repair and snow removal dwindle. I also saw the crime rate and calls for police service to the "Freight House District" significantly increase, which included multiple shootings.

Citizens want a fun place and activities for their children. I would like to suggest that we fix our Parks and open our Libraries.

2 Supporters

Dennis Diullo in District 1

March 25, 2013, 10:27 AM

I strongly disagree

As a youngster growing up in Reno, I remember going to baseball stadium on Moana to watch the Reno Silver Soxs. My Uncle was the sports announcer so my cousin and I often attended with him. My recollection is that the games had a low attendance and the stadium was financially in the red.

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

This continued until the team was dissolved and the stadium abandoned.

I was surprised when the Reno Mayor was pushing for a new stadium. The location was even more surprising to me, with the noticeable lack of parking for the sport. I looked at it as another of the City Council's bad decisions under poor leadership. I do not think that the County should be drawn into any of the City's bad decisions. Let them clean up their own mess.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 25, 2013, 8:28 AM

I strongly disagree

Reno is in financial trouble again, and "Mayor Bob" wants a bailout. First, he proposed merging city and county, because this would allow him to get more tax money by increasing the property tax rate in the County without any benefit to the County residents. Then he fought the County taking back their fire department, the contract for which was called "the Truckee Meadows slush fund" by a senior member of the fire department in a public meeting (over half a million dollars a year disappeared with that deal). There was the train trench. The climbing wall (in which his son had a financial stake). The parking meters, in which his friends have a financial stake. Now this.

Reno tore down their old fire station HQ and built two "temporary" stations for more money apiece than it cost the county to build a brand new permanent station. They've started to close fire stations because their union contracts are too generous. They've threatened to "stop policing annexed areas", and just collect the tax revenue.

Time for some down to earth responsibility.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 24, 2013, 1:10 PM

I strongly disagree

I cannot justify any expenditure whatsoever of taxpayer dollars from any source to assist with funding or "restructuring debt" with the Reno Aces baseball park, an entirely private venture. In today's Reno Gazette Journal (Mar 24, 2013) there is an extensive series of articles which profile the dire conditions of many of our public schools within the Washoe County School District. Our first and foremost responsibility to the citizens of this county are:

1. Police and Fire Protection/public safety. Both have sustained considerable budget cuts over the past five years, to include the closing or "browning out" of some fire stations.
2. Educating our children. Public schools have suffered with reduced tax revenues and extensive budget cuts post recession since 2007; with many schools still needing extensive repairs, maintenance, renovation/technology upgrades; and yes, an adequate number of teachers. I am

Baseball

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All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

personally aware of one or two excellent teachers who have been repeatedly given pink slips at the end of the school year, to the point where their job security was so unpredictable and frustrating that they left Nevada to accept job offers and teach in other states. In ranking after ranking, Nevada in comparison to other states is consistently at the bottom of every respected list for overall quality of education/schools; dollars spent per student; and test scores.

How can we justify the extravagance of taxpayer "bail outs" at any level of a ball-park for a spectator sport attended by a relatively small percentage of it's citizens? If the owner/operators need more money, I suggest that they charge accordingly in their ticket prices, and have the people who want and enjoy this sort of entertainment (which is all it really is) to pay for it; not the general public; and homeowners.

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 2

March 26, 2013, 5:57 PM

I strongly disagree

We have other things that take priority over keeping a baseball team here. We have people living under bridges, eating out of garbage cans, kids who don't have the basic necessities they need, elderly people who are unable to feed themselves or pay for medication. Helping people in our community should be our top priority. If the Aces want to stay here, let them support themselves. I want no part of funding them.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 4

March 26, 2013, 4:44 PM

I strongly disagree

I strongly disagree and believe no taxpayer money should be used to support keeping the Reno Aces in our community. Professional sports and baseball are big businesses with huge profits and should not be supported by taxpayers in any fashion. Sports teams will prey on the emotion of fans to get the sweetest deals available and leave a city in a heartbeat. I watched the Oakland Raiders 'rape' the Alameda County taxpayers repeatedly for decades. Just check with Alameda County to see if their support of the Raiders has ever been positive financially?

The owners of the Aces are trying to hold our community hostage by threatening to leave. It's time to cut our losses and let them go if they choose. Don't spend my tax dollars on professional sports!

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 4

March 26, 2013, 10:40 AM

I strongly disagree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

After going through all the shenanigans of splitting up our fire protection to save money, if my commissioner votes for this deal to give money to a sports franchise, I'll actively work and campaign for whoever is running against them in the next election. Multiple economic studies have shown that government entities who subsidize sports franchises seldom get the payback they fantasize about.

1 Supporter

Mark Wilson in District 5

March 26, 2013, 9:35 AM

I strongly disagree

First off we do not need nor should we want another debalkle like what we had back in the 60's and 70's with the Silversox. At any given time, if they wanted, Sk could pack up and move out leaving the stadium dark whether the community wanted it or not. If we as a community were to give this organization our support, there should be some guarantees in place for us the citizens. There isn't. Yes, I know that as long as the Aces are in Reno, it is somewhat of a financial advantage for the community. But this is all one sided and in my opinion a very dangerous move on our part to give this kind of support with no financial guarantee that they will stay through thick and thin. Just look what happened to Moana Stadium after the Silversox went under. Haven't we learned from our past? The businesses around the Aces stadium would suffer and the community as a whole would be left holding the bag and be responsible for it's future maintenance and care.

The city and county invested a bundle in getting this to go through and now here we are a few years later being stood up against the wall and being given no choice or advantage for the stadium's future security.

I feel that unless something can be negotiated to protect the communitie's investment then the city and county should tell Sk to move on and we will find some venue that will be more community proactive than just standing there with their hand out out or else attitude.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 26, 2013, 6:47 AM

I strongly disagree

Reno is already a national joke. Please don't put it on the folks who pay property taxes to get in on this boondoggle. Simon got his freeway overpass, ain't that enough? www.dontgrowoldinreno.com

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 5

March 25, 2013, 1:49 PM

I strongly disagree

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

Here is a quote from a RGJ article on 5/16/2007: "The county will not be obligated to provide any financial contributions to the project other than imposing the car rental fee and issuing the bonds. The Katzoffs and Simon agreed the county will not be asked or expected to provide a full faith and credit repayment for the repayment of the bonds." For a little more perspective on the timeline of the stadium, go to <http://manhattancapitalllc.com/press/press.php> It's interesting to go back and read about the selective memory of the developers and our city leaders. Yes, I do realize that times have changed and so has the economy. Given that, is there a city in the PCL zone that has the stomach or ability to take a chance on funding a AAA stadium? Maybe the county commissioners should call SK's bluff, and if they do end up walking away from their investment, so be it.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 3

March 25, 2013, 1:01 PM

I strongly disagree

Under no circumstances should taxpayer money be used to fund a baseball stadium for a filthy rich billionaire. Let it be funded privately if it's so great. We are still in a weak recovery, high unemployment, nothing but part time jobs for a lot of us, county residents still struggling to pay their mortgage. And politicians want to pile on that? This is nothing more than cronyism.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 12:52 PM

I strongly disagree

I am totally against Washoe County putting any money into this. You will be having County associations coming to the table in the very near future and should you place any funds into this could go to the County employees. After all, they have been reduced in staffing, wages etc. It is time for the County to wake up and let the City of Reno shoulder this matter. They wanted it, let them figure it out.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 5

March 25, 2013, 11:02 AM

I strongly disagree

Normally I would say yes. However because of the times I say no. There are more important things to take care of first. WHY DON'T ALL THE CASINOS IN THE AREA GET TOGETHER AND DO IT? IT'S A DROP IN THE BUCKET FOR THEM. AS I SEE IT ALSO, THEY DO NOTHING TO HELP. IF THEY ADVERTISED EVERYWHERE, WE WOULD GET MORE TOURISTS TO COME HERE, WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT.

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 10:10 AM

I strongly disagree

Reno is the only entity to gain from the support of funding the Aces, with county money. The County residents will see no gain from funding this endeavor. Reno has consistently mismanaged their affairs and as a County unincorporated resident I say No to any assistance for Reno, or the Aces which are owned by a Billionaire. This is a no brainier. The team should sink or swim on their own merits. Where would the money come from. The county has already abused the County Govt. Services tax on our vehicle registration. There is no magic money.

1 Supporter

John Alexander in District 2

March 25, 2013, 9:58 AM

I strongly disagree

To subsidize a private business to operate a private enterprise with public funds is totally inconsistent with the principles of a free market economy. It is my understanding that this organization (SKS Baseball) is delinquent 3 years on the payment of past property taxes owing on this baseball stadium property. It makes no sense for Washoe County to provide a subsidy for 30 years to an organization that doesn't even pay its fair share to support Washoe County government services. SKS Baseball should succeed or fail on the merits of its individual business plan and/or operations. There is no other source of entertainment in Washoe County I am aware of that receives a subsidy from Washoe County taxpayers. When I attend a concert or other live entertainment locally at a casino, I don't receive any kind of subsidy. I bear the entire cost of the ticket to view the entertainment. Why should those who choose to attend a baseball game not bear the entire cost of that entertainment? Only when those baseball fans are required to pay the "full price" of that entertainment, will we citizens of Washoe County know whether or not professional baseball is a viable business enterprise. NO Washoe County funds should be used to provide financial assistance (welfare) to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community!

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 24, 2013, 9:14 PM

I strongly disagree

Government is out of control at every level. There is no reason to encourage the continuous theft at the county level by helping a private enterprise. If they need help, they will get it from investors. If people want to help this private company, let them donate their money on their own. Instead the county is suggesting that every taxpayer in the county support this whether they want to or not?! If I

Baseball

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All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

tried this as a private citizen, I'd be locked up in prison. This is wrong on so many levels. Stop forcing me to do anything. Stay out of my life and business and stay out of others' lives too. If people want something, let them pay for it themselves.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 24, 2013, 2:19 PM

I strongly disagree

Washoe County should not provide any precious taxpayer dollars to the Reno Aces. This is a for-profit business that is the responsibility of the team ownership that is comprised of sophisticated and highly experienced investors.

The City of Reno has made numerous mistakes in supporting private developments over the past six years. These errors have cost the City millions of dollars and will continue to impact Reno's finances for many years. Washoe County should hold firm and not follow the City down this path. Attendance at the ballpark has declined every year since opening and this trend will continue. Minor league baseball does not increase tourism and it has not lead to any meaningful increase in development in the surrounding area. In fact the area is the site of several crimes and ongoing criminal and gang activity.

Take a hard look at the City of Reno developments: Cabela's, The Reno Aces, Legends Mall, The Sierra Summit Mall are examples of taxpayer funds being diverted to private businesses that do not provide important services to County residents. Washoe County needs to exercise good judgment and preserve funds for fire, police, safety, senior services and schools that are much more important to residents than minor league baseball.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 2

March 23, 2013, 6:23 PM

I strongly disagree

I love the Aces ballpark. My family and I go there often. It is great recreation for the family. But, I do not believe that Washoe county should be financially aiding the park. So many things have been cut already. The county is feeling the pinch! And yet they want a 30 year commitment to aid the park? No. We have other higher priorities first. I think the ballpark should be opened for other venues there. Look for ways to make money. Not taxpayer money.

1 Supporter

Name not shown in District 5

March 27, 2013, 7:45 AM

Baseball

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Washoe County government should provide financial assistance to help keep Reno Aces baseball in our community?

All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

I strongly disagree

The Aces owner is trying to get the best deal he can, that is why he is threatening to leave Reno. But where else can he go and how much more money would he really have to spend to change the name and the branding of his team? What other city has a new ball park available to him? This location is the Aces best option and he will stay if he doesn't receive these funds. Don't let his threats frighten us into paying for a poor decision the City of Reno has made.

Name not shown in District 2

March 26, 2013, 8:04 AM

I strongly disagree

All it takes is a couple losing seasons to really sink this boat. How much does the stadium contribute in property taxes? 0

Mark Sullivan in District 1

March 25, 2013, 10:17 AM

I strongly disagree

The City of Reno got it wrong, Washoe County shouldn't make the same mistake. SK Baseball threaten to leave because the return on their investment in 2012 wasn't what they forecasted back in 2007; SK got the Pacific Coast League to agree they would let them move if the team wasn't financially successful. That was the center of the discussion and the City of Reno decision was made based on that premise. If anyone with an IQ over 100 would have taken a step back and looked at the facts they would know that SK isn't going anywhere. Prior to the City of Reno's most recent restructuring SK Baseball would have had to pay \$25 million to pay off the stadium loan if they left any time in the first 15 years. How would the return on their investment be if they paid that? That move would also abandon the balance of their investment in the Freight House District. It's ridiculous that anyone would have fallen for that argument.

Northern Nevadan's have been understanding that these types of amenities in a community are not successful without public support so northern Nevadan's created a 3% rental car tax (\$28 million) to pay for the stadium. They also show up at games as evidenced by the attendance that puts the ACE's firmly in the upper middle of all PCL teams. Where would they go and get more support? They aren't going anywhere. If we have extra money to give to businesses, support local business that will use the money to expand their businesses and create job growth, think about the return on OUR investment.

Name not shown in District 2

March 25, 2013, 10:00 AM

I strongly disagree

At a time when governmental services are being cut, it is outrageous that the City would want to

Baseball

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All Participants around Washoe County who selected 'Strongly Disagree'

financially help a private organization. Time and time again we have been told the City has no money, but they can do this? Call the Reno Aces' bluff. What city would want them now, that they're pulling this crap with Reno? Their less than stellar reputation will precede them.

Name not shown in District 1

March 22, 2013, 2:32 PM

I strongly disagree

2 Supporters

Name not shown in District 1

March 25, 2013, 11:05 AM

I strongly disagree

Name not shown in District 4

March 25, 2013, 7:11 AM

I strongly disagree

Name not shown in District 4

March 24, 2013, 2:36 PM

I strongly disagree

Name not shown in District 4

March 22, 2013, 5:44 PM

I strongly disagree